

**DEP/EPA Quarterly Meeting
March 27, 2018
Draft Summary**

PFAS

- General discussion of PFAS issues – At the ECOS meeting on March 20-22, in St. Paul, MN, one of the sessions was PFAS. At this session, it was the consensus from all the states present that EPA should be the lead to address this issue. In NJ, there are 16 sites that may have PFAS. Currently, EPA's Long-Term Health Advisories for Drinking Water are 70 ppt for PFOA (individually or in combination with PFOS) and 70 ppt for PFOS (individually or in combination with PFOA). NJDEP's Ground Water Quality Standard for PFNA of 10 ng/l (ppt) was adopted on Jan. 16, 2018. EPA will be hosting a National Leadership Summit to act on PFAS in the environment in DC on May 22-23, 2018. EPA will request each tribe/state governor to send 1-2 representatives to attend. During the summit, participants will share information, develop monitoring and treatment/cleanup techniques, identify specific near-term actions that are needed to address challenges currently facing states and local communities, and develop risk communication strategies that will help communities to address public concerns with PFAS.
EPA Action Item - Walter will find out the target audience for the summit.
- Deepwater – Contamination from the Chemours facility has been found in Salem Canal and Delaware River surface water bodies. EPA-CASD is the lead, but works in conjunction with NJDEP providing oversight and technical support to Chemours to ensure that contamination on and off the facility is properly investigated and addressed. The contamination appears to be originating from the process waste stream, not the well water. NJDEP needs to understand how it's getting into process waste stream. At the request of NJDEP and with support from EPA Region 2, ORD's National Exposure Research Lab (NERL) is performing forensic analytical support for the investigation of PFAS contamination and Gen-X in southwestern New Jersey along or near the Delaware River.
- Solvay - The facility comprises 243-acres and is located in West Deptford Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey. Historically and presently the facility manufactures fluoropolymers, fluorocarbons, and fluoroelastomers. As such, PFAS have been used including PFNA, PFOA and PFOS, which are present at high levels in off-site groundwater and surface water discharges. Solvay is regulated under an EPA RCRA Corrective Action Permit and also under the NJDEP's cleanup program. NJDEP has lead cleanup responsibility under a work sharing agreement between the agencies. In 2019, Solvay is expected to begin implementation of an off-site groundwater pump and treat (P&T) system for VOCs and PFAS to some extent. Private well investigations have been expanded by NJDEP under its Publicly Funded Program and are ongoing. NJDEP is also installing point of entry treatment systems (POETs) for private wells showing elevated PFC concentrations as needed through this program.
- PFAS Fingerprinting - NJDEP is spearheading PFAS evaluations and investigation efforts throughout the State. Also, Region 2 has helped facilitate a collaborative effort between NJDEP and ORD to analyze and attempt forensic identification of other potential PFC sources in southwestern NJ through the collection and analysis of surface water, potable well water, sediment and soil samples. The analytical support is mainly directed at applying ORD's research to fingerprint PFAS as a tool to identify contamination sources. NJDEP will be performing all the sample collection, based on a sampling plan designed with input from EPA's cleanup programs and ORD. Up to 57 water samples

will be collected and analyzed from tidal and non-tidal surface water bodies and ground water from private drinking water wells, and up to 48 soil/sediment samples. NJDEP will send split samples to NERL for analysis at ORD's expense. NERL will benefit from this collaboration by expanding its research and developing peer-reviewed journal articles on PFAS transport mechanisms, exposure pathways and analytical methods to 'finger-print' PFAS contamination.

Superfund

- Pompton Lakes – This high-profile Pompton Lakes Works site (approximately 300-400 houses) is a 588-acre site located in Pompton Lakes, NJ. The site is currently owned by Chemours. Past operations/waste management practices at the facility resulted in on-site and off-site contamination of soil and sediment contaminants (lead, mercury and copper) and ground water contaminants (tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE)). EPA and NJDEP have lead or co-lead responsibilities for discrete phases of work. DEP would like to do more work to get lower TCE. One of the community main issues (which is contrary to what the mayor and city council wants) is to include the facility on EPA's NPL because the pace of clean-up is too slow, and Superfund would provide funds for the community for a Technical Advisor and Superfund would be able to exert more rigorous enforcement. However, there is no added benefit/difference to listing as NPL, no added legal muscle. Listing would affect ability to receive TAG grant which Chemours would like to use for the community. DEP does not want this site listed as NPL.
- Passaic River – This is one of the superfund sites the Administrator is engaged. The Diamond Alkali Superfund Site includes the former Diamond Alkali manufacturing facility located in Newark, NJ, the Lower Passaic River Study Area, and the Newark Bay Study Area. A group of potentially responsible parties named the Cooperating Parties Group (CPG) performed the Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study (RI/FS) with a most recent draft RI submitted in December 2017 (currently under review) while a draft FS is anticipated in late 2018. Mark (NJDEP) and John (EPA/ERRD) will work together to determine FS lower level of contamination in hot spots as well as defining the depth and width of the hot spots. State wants full definition of levels before even having consensus. CPG is waiting for direction from EPA before submitting revised FS. Legal/enforcement issues will also need to be addressed. Pete will talk to administrator about this pivot which is good.
Joint Action Item - to come to consensus with DEP/EPA before talking to administrator.
- Quanta Resources Edgewater – The Quanta Resources Corporation site is located in Edgewater, New Jersey. Starting in the late 1800s, coal tar, paving and roofing materials were made at the site by various entities. Implementation of the OU1 remedy has been complicated by the close proximity of neighboring developed properties, as there is little distance separating residents and building occupants from the areas requiring cleanup. Working on messaging, pivoting work on site, public meetings, senator Booker and Pasquale interested in this. Honeywell cooperative. Question do speed up smelly part (12 to 18 months away) Mark DEP and John thinking about not working over the summer. Furthermore, naphthalene, a primary component of coal tar, has a very low odor threshold, and nuisance odor complaints have been prevalent in recent weeks as the remedy has reached more highly contaminated areas of the site. The odor threshold is substantially lower than a level that would be considered a health concern to the community or on-site workers performing the cleanup.
EPA Action Item - EPA to share materials on quanta
- Hackensack River – EPA and NJDEP management have for some years been discussing the possible inclusion of the Hackensack River on the NPL. NJDEP has so far indicated a preference not to list the

Hackensack on the NPL, while having the PRPs for specific sites on the Hackensack (e.g., NPL sites like Standard Chlorine in Kearny and sites on Berry's Creek, a Hackensack tributary; and many non-NPL, state-lead sites) address the river adjacent to them. The NJDEP is continuing the ongoing review of the data provided by the Site Inspection. walter and mark is still talking, no action from dep yet. This would probably come from governor because of high profile.

- Berry's Creek – The Berry's Creek Study Area (BCSA) is Operable Unit 2 of the Ventron/Velsicol Superfund site. EPA plans on releasing the Proposed Plan for the site in spring 2018, with a public meeting that explains EPA's preferred alternative to be held shortly after. It should be noted that NJDEP has expressed their support for an interim action at this site. The Region's preferred alternative for the waterway sediments involves dredging, typically to a depth of 2 feet in most areas, followed by capping. The dredging will remove source material (including the fluff layer), and will allow the cap to be installed without exacerbating flooding. The Region's preferred alternative will cost approximately \$332M, and take approximately six years to design and implement. The Administrator suggests more actions for clean up, specifically closer to radio towers.
EPA Action Item – Pete will brief Administrator prior to Administrator signing record of decision
- American Cyanamid OU8 Proposed Plans –The 435-acre site, located adjacent to the Raritan River in Bridgewater, NJ, was placed on the NPL in 1983 after contamination was found in impoundments, soil and groundwater. Impoundments 1 and 2 (OU8) is highly acidic (average pH of 1.5) with a solid to semi-solid consistency and contains extremely high levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) (primarily benzene, toluene, and xylene) and semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs) (primarily naphthalene) as well as malodorous sulfur compounds. Due to the unique and highly complex nature of the contaminants within impoundments 1 and 2 and their proximity (700 feet) to the Raritan River, these two impoundments are being evaluated separately through a Focused Feasibility Study (FFS). As part of the FFS, several pilot studies were completed to evaluate remedial options. The Region prefers the alternative that involves excavation and mechanical dewatering of the acid tar waste materials, followed by shipping to an offsite cement kiln for permanent destruction and beneficial reuse. Following removal, residual material will be treated using in-situ stabilization/solidification followed by the installation of a protective cover over the treated materials. Regional staff plan on releasing the Proposed Plan for the site in early 2018. NJDEP has expressed their support for EPA's preferred remedy provided that the technology is implemented in a safe manner.

Enforcement

- Trenton Water Works – Trenton Water Works is owned and operated by the City of Trenton and serves the City of Trenton and Townships of Ewing, Hamilton, Hopewell and Lawrence. NJDEP entered into a comprehensive AO on Consent on February 7, 2017 that established timeframes for the utility to bring system operations into compliance with DEP regulations by addressing staffing deficiencies, implementing an emergency response plan that will keep the public informed of operational issues, and taking actions to minimize disruptions to the treatment plant, particularly to its Delaware River intake system. In February 2014, Region 2 issued an Administrative Order (AO) to require compliance with identified violations and establish an enforceable schedule for filling critical positions. Ultimately the City resolved all the violations identified and complied with staffing requirements (added 30 operators) outlined in the AO and, in consultation with NJDEP, EPA closed its case.

- State/EPA enforcement coordination – The Assistant Administrator for OECA, Susan Bodine, issued the *Interim Guidance on Enhancing Regional-State Planning and Communication* on January 22, 2018. Region 2's compliance and enforcement programs work with New Jersey to plan and coordinate inspection efforts on a routine basis which includes sharing lists of annual inspection targets and discussing enforcement leads when violations are identified. At the ECOS conference, David Hidine requested best practices in regions which Kate did provide.
EPA Action Item – Kate Anderson will provide copy of best practices.
- Significant noncompliance, use of State Revolving Fund, and UST cleanup national measures – The new Henry Darwin measures listed LUST and NPDS cleanups for the year at an ambitious 25%. Discussions are ongoing with HQ on how to achieve this. Doug McKenna (EPA) has quarterly meetings with NJDEP counterpart to manage noncompliance database entry rate.

Finance

- Updates on EPA budget and funding to NJ -The federal omnibus bill was approved at FY '17 levels the week of March 19. Nationwide, EPA received a \$149M rescission in unobligated funds which Region 2 has little to no funds in this category. Changes to bill from FY '17 include: \$3M reduction in operating programs, \$3M increase in Superfund, and \$35M increase in STAG. Additional infrastructure resources to states include: \$600M for CW and DW SRFs, \$63M Superfund, \$53M in WIFIA, \$50M other infrastructure funding (lead reduction, voluntary testing of lead in water in schools and childcare facilities, and grants to small and disadvantaged communities). NJ State fiscal year starts July 1. The State budget hearing is basically flat with emphasis on transportation and education. NJDEP agency also encompasses DOI and NOAA. EPA has 30 days to develop a plan and provide to OMB.
- Lean Management System – There are 25 national measures.
EPA Action Item - Rich will share the measures.

Environmental Justice - Ironbound/Port Issues (District US Attorney/Port Authority) – November 2018, EPA met with NJ US Attorney in regard to bringing legal action against Port Authority. This was a listening session for EPA. Since that meeting, the US Attorney has not approached EPA or NJDEP. Pete welcome any thoughts NJDEP has on how to deal with issue. NJDEP intends to use the VW funds to control emissions with most of the applications to include the Ironbound District. First will be in fall 2018. NJDEP has not categorize the VW money but anticipate initial uses in the fall 2018 lasting 24 months to 3 years.

Puerto Rico – NJ Governor is giving a tax deduction for those that volunteer in PR. In addition, he is setting up a taskforce to assist in PR recovery. While NJDEP has not received direct goals from the taskforce, NJDEP would like to know from EPA which areas they can help. EPA's biggest issues are power supply, air issues based on power plants operations, solid waste management, and Non Prasa water supplies. USDA is providing resources for a circuit rider to survey the Non Prasa water supplies. Private organizations have provided batteries. NJDEP may be able to initiate recycling to assist with the solid waste issue.

EPA Action Item – EPA will define power issues PR has.

EPA's ROCS-Net Selection –EPA ORD has created a Community of Science Networking (ROCS-Net) Program to bring regional scientists together. Region 2 received 3 applications from which NJ representative, Dr. Brian Proshki was chosen. First meeting will be in Cincinnati in May.